

**In the Claims**

Please amend claim 17 as follows:

A2  
17. (Amended) A method for preventing, treating, or ameliorating a medical condition, comprising administering to a mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of the polypeptide of claim 11.

Please add the following claim:

A2  
-- 24. A method for preventing, treating, or ameliorating a medical condition, comprising administering to a mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of the polynucleotide of claim 1. --